

15 October 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: IHC/SS only  
SUBJECT : COINS Log

A meeting of the COINS Subsystem managers was held at CIA (in the OPPB "Tank", 6th floor) on Thursday, 8 Oct. 1970. The meeting started at 1000, but the Staff did not hear about it until 0940 the same morning. Due to previous commitments no members of the Staff could get there until 1115 so this log will be somewhat fragmentary. STAT

A Possible COINS "Crisis" File for Indications & Warning

STAT When I arrived [ ] was in the midst of describing the type of file NIC would like to see on COINS, tailored to NIC requirements for watch analyst backup. He apparently had already described the data elements desired, because he was describing a file of such unlimited security classification - to include TK, all SI compartmented info,

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State LIMDIS, EXDIS, etc., with virtually no restriction on the material in it - that very few people in the community would have access to it. He hoped some ANSRS-type security arrangements could be worked out to handle the complicated security and access problems involved in such a file. The conversation got around to [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] is being loaded and tested on COINS, and should be ready for querying by the first of the year. During the discussion on warning and watch files [REDACTED] mentioned that the same questions are being asked as to what constitutes a warning file today that were asked ten years ago (and not answered very effectively to judge by the result) when the Air Force was trying to justify Project [REDACTED] are going to write down their ideas on crisis files, and will circulate them.

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#### Character Limitation

At the last executive (closed) meeting, apparently one of the questions discussed was whether COINS management should end the 15,000 character limitation presently existing for query answers. Apparently they arrived at no conclusion - either at that meeting or this.

#### Collection of COINS Correspondence

George is assembling another collection of COINS

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[redacted] replacement as NSA Subsystem manager) reported that [redacted] will be available on-line on 1 November - provided that TIPS I is working at that time.

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Effect of Flight Bans on Travel

The NSA Scientific Advisory Boards trip to NSA has been postponed until 28 - 30 of October - apparently their high clearances makes them fall under the flight bans edict, even though, strictly speaking, they aren't part of the government. The COINS Committee trip up to IBM has been postponed now to 5 November - no one wanted to take the train.

Reports by Subcommittee Chairmen:

Security Panel, [redacted]

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The Security Panel has had about 15 meetings: They worked chiefly on three items:

1. "Need to Know" in the Experiment. They have not made as much progress in this subject as [redacted] would like. Someone from CIA has apparently been a thorn in their side when trying to get agreement on this.

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2. Operational Instruction Number 5 - "Reporting of Security Deficiencies by Members" has been issued.

3. Study on Security Labeling problem and various attempts to tighten up on security labels in general. Mention was made of the slowness of IHC on this problem, 1/7, the DOD proposal, etc.

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[REDACTED]

(attempt to iron out USIB/DOD differences) that afternoon, and his panel will probably make some recommendations too.

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[REDACTED]

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COINS Computer-Communications Interface Panel (CCIP) [REDACTED]

"COINS Principles of Operation" Manual, revised and being typed. Includes Parity Check procedure. Warm Start has been finished. It will be implemented when the new switch software (DIAOLS-COINS connection, I presumed) comes on.

Users Panel (CUSP) - [REDACTED]

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CUSP is more or less waiting for the new systems to come out (I presumed he had TILE and DIAOLS in mind), so they can start training the users in them. Most of the manuals will have to be rewritten at that time, e.g., the Catalog of COINS Files. When Brian mentioned that FIPS 10 was out, I couldn't resist asking what NSA was going to do about it. George thought that

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[REDACTED]

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FIPS 10 externally. Though the law says that those not using  
a FIPS must bear the cost of conversion for exchange with  
another agency, [ ] said that DIA was converting one  
file they give to NSA to the trigraph out of the goodness of  
their hearts. George says [ ]

Other Business

In reply to a question George said that the Information<sup>CS</sup>  
contract will start in the next month or so and end February  
15th (?), but I don't know which Information<sup>CS</sup> contract he's  
speaking of.